nology that facilitates the organization and management of data with a geographic compo-

(Pub. L. 109-58, title XVIII, §1808, Aug. 8, 2005, 119 Stat. 1124.)

#### § 16523. Alaska natural gas pipeline

Not later than 180 days after August 8, 2005, and every 180 days thereafter until the Alaska natural gas pipeline commences operation, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission shall submit to Congress a report describing-

- (1) the progress made in licensing and constructing the pipeline; and
  - (2) any issue impeding that progress.

(Pub. L. 109-58, title XVIII, §1810, Aug. 8, 2005, 119 Stat. 1126.)

# §16524. Study on the benefits of economic dispatch

# (a) Study

The Secretary, in coordination and consultation with the States, shall conduct a study on-

- (1) the procedures currently used by electric utilities to perform economic dispatch;
- (2) identifying possible revisions to those procedures to improve the ability of nonutility generation resources to offer their output for sale for the purpose of inclusion in economic dispatch; and
- (3) the potential benefits to residential, commercial, and industrial electricity consumers nationally and in each state 1 if economic dispatch procedures were revised to improve the ability of nonutility generation resources to offer their output for inclusion in economic dispatch.

# (b) Definition

The term "economic dispatch" when used in this section means the operation of generation facilities to produce energy at the lowest cost to reliably serve consumers, recognizing any operational limits of generation and transmission facilities.

# (c) Report to Congress and the States

Not later than 90 days after August 8, 2005, and on a yearly basis following, the Secretary shall submit a report to Congress and the States on the results of the study conducted under subsection (a), including recommendations to Congress and the States for any suggested legislative or regulatory changes.

(Pub. L. 109-58, title XVIII, §1832, Aug. 8, 2005, 119 Stat. 1138.)

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>So in original. Probably should be capitalized.

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# § 16601. Definitions

In this chapter:

# (1) Administrator

The term "Administrator" means the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

The term "ISS" means the International Space Station.

# (3) NASA

The term "NASA" means the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

(Pub. L. 109-155, §2, Dec. 30, 2005, 119 Stat. 2897.)

# REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in text, was in the original "this Act", meaning Pub. L. 109-155, Dec. 30, 2005, 119 Stat. 2895, which is classified principally to this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note below and Tables.

# SHORT TITLE

Pub. L. 109-155, §1(a), Dec. 30, 2005, 119 Stat. 2895, provided that: "This Act [enacting this chapter and sections 2459f-1, 2459k, and 2459l of this title, amending sections 2451, 2458c, 2459f, 2459g, 2473b, and 2477 of this title and section 9809 of Title 5, Government Organization

and Employees, repealing section 2473e of this title, and amending provisions set out as notes under section 2451 of this title and section 47508 of Title 49, Transportation] may be cited as the 'National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act of 2005'."

# SUBCHAPTER I—GENERAL PRINCIPLES AND REPORTS

# § 16611. Responsibilities, policies, and plans

#### (a) General responsibilities

# (1) Programs

The Administrator shall ensure that NASA carries out a balanced set of programs that shall include, at a minimum, programs in-

- (A) human space flight, in accordance with subsection (b);
- (B) aeronautics research and development; and
- (C) scientific research, which shall include, at a minimum-
- (i) robotic missions to study the Moon and other planets and their moons, and to deepen understanding of astronomy, astrophysics, and other areas of science that can be productively studied from space;
- (ii) earth science research and research on the Sun-Earth connection through the development and operation of research satellites and other means;
- (iii) support of university research in space science, earth science, and microgravity science; and
- (iv) research on microgravity, including research that is not directly related to human exploration.

# (2) Consultation and coordination

In carrying out the programs of NASA, the Administrator shall-

- (A) consult and coordinate to the extent appropriate with other relevant Federal agencies, including through the National Science and Technology Council;
- (B) work closely with the private sector, including by-
  - (i) encouraging the work of entrepreneurs who are seeking to develop new means to launch satellites, crew, or cargo;
  - (ii) contracting with the private sector for crew and cargo services, including to the International Space Station, to the extent practicable:
  - (iii) using commercially available products (including software) and services to the extent practicable to support all NASA activities; and
  - (iv) encouraging commercial use and development of space to the greatest extent practicable; and
- (C) involve other nations to the extent appropriate.

# (b) Vision for space exploration

# (1) In general

The Administrator shall establish a program to develop a sustained human presence on the Moon, including a robust precursor program, to promote exploration, science, commerce, and United States preeminence in space, and as a stepping-stone to future exploration of